

**REMARKS****I. Status of the Application**

Claims 1-20 are pending in this application. In the August 6, 2007 office action, the Examiner:

- A. Rejected claims 3-5, 8, 11-13 and 18-19 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as allegedly being indefinite;
- B. Rejected claims 1, 2, 7, and 14-17 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent Pub. 2003/0023874 by Prokupets et al (hereinafter “Prokupets”);
- C. Rejected claims 3-6, 8-13 and 18-20 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatenable by Prokupets in view of U.S. Patent Pub. 2006/114842 by Miyamoto et al. (hereinafter “Miyamoto”).

In this response, applicants have amended 3, 4, 11, 12, 13, 18 and 19 to clarify the inventions claimed therein. Applicants respectfully traverse the prior art rejections of the claims and request reconsideration in view of the foregoing amendments and accompanying remarks.

**II. The Indefiniteness Issues are Moot**

The Examiner rejected claims 3-5, 8, 11-13 and 18-19 as allegedly being indefinite for referencing a UL standard. The relevant claims have been amended to eliminate the reference to “UL listed” in the claims. Instead, the relevant claims now incorporate language that the device “meets one or more standards-issuing agencies publicly available standards for fire

protective signaling”, or language similar thereto.

It is respectfully submitted that the above-cited language is sufficiently definite. One of ordinary skill in the art would readily understand that the claimed device has the *physical and functional features* necessary to meet at least one publicly available standard for fire protective signaling. Examples of such standards are disclosed in the specification on page 11.

Because claims 3, 4, 11-13, 18 and 19 have been amended to remove the “UL listed” language deemed by the Examiner to be indefinite, and because claims 3, 4, 11-13, 18 and 19 now include language that clearly identifies physical and/or functional features, it is respectfully submitted that the indefiniteness rejection of claims 3, 4, 11-13, 18 and 19 is moot and should be withdrawn.

### III. Prokupets does not Anticipate Claim 1

Claim 1 stands rejected as allegedly being anticipated by Prokupets. However, as will be discussed below in detail, Prokupets fails to disclose each and every element of claim 1. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claim 1 over Prokupets is in error and should be withdrawn.

#### A. Claim 1

Claim 1 is directed to a data transmission system for a facility that includes a first network, a second network and an isolating router. The first network includes a number of critical devices disposed within the facility and at least one first computer workstation

operably coupled to said number of critical devices via said first network. The second network includes at least one second computer workstation. The isolating router couples the first network to said second network and operable to isolate said first network from data transmission traffic in said second network.

B. Prokupets

Prokupets is directed to a system for integrating security and access for facilities and information systems. The system includes a computer server, information system, and facility protection systems. As shown in Fig. 1, an access control system, a digital surveillance system, a fire system and an intrusion detection system are all coupled to a network 20. A security server 12 appears to control access to the various systems on the network 20. (Prokupets at Fig. 1).

C. Prokupets Fails to Disclose or Suggest the Claimed Router

Prokupets fails to disclose or suggest “an isolating router coupling said first network to said second network and operable to isolate said first network from data transmission traffic in said second network”, as claimed in claim 1. Prokupets mentions an “interface” for two of the security-related systems (i.e. systems 22a and 22b) which communicates and/or approves security information provided by or to the security server. (Prokupets at Para. [0058]). However, this “interface” does not appear to be a router. For example, the depth of activity occurring at the Prokupets “interface” suggests a much higher layer device than that of a router. Regardless, there is no evidence that Prokupets employs a router as this interface, even

if it could.

Essentially, Prokupets fails to disclose *any router*. While it is likely that some portion of the network of Prokupets could use a standard router, there is no disclosure or suggestion that Prokupets would employ or need to employ “an isolating router coupling said first network to said second network and operable to isolate said first network from data transmission traffic in said second network”, as recited in claim 1. Because Prokupets fails to disclose the claimed “router”, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of Prokupets is in error and should be withdrawn.

#### D. The Examiner’s Rejection

The Examiner has alleged the Prokupets teaches “an isolating router coupling said first network to said second network and operable to isolate said first network from data transmission traffic in said second network” at Fig. 1, element 12 and at page 2, paragraphs [0008]-[0009]. (August 6, 2007 office action at p.4) Applicants respectfully disagree.

Element 12 of Fig. 1 is the “security server” of Prokupets. This security server 12 is a “network capable computer system”, not a router. Prokupets does not disclose or suggest that the “network capable computer system” also houses or operates as a router. Prokupets certainly does not disclose that a router operates to isolate one network from data transmission of another network. Thus, Fig. 1 of Prokupets does not disclose a router.

Moreover, paragraphs [0008]-[0009] of Prokupets merely describe “objects” of the Prokupets invention, and neither reference or suggest any router.

In connection with the rejection of another claim, the Examiner cites page 1, paragraph

[0004] of Prokupets as allegedly disclosing a router. (*Id.*) That paragraph does not disclose *any* router, much less the router as claimed.

For the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that the Examiner has not established a *prima facie* case of anticipation of claim 1.

E. Conclusion as to Claim 1

Because Prokupets does not teach “an isolating router coupling said first network to said second network and operable to isolate said first network from data transmission traffic in said second network”, Prokupets fails to teach each and every element of the invention of claim 1. As a consequence, it is respectfully submitted that the anticipation rejection of claim 1 is in error and should be withdrawn.

IV. Claims 2, 7, 15 and 16

Claims 2, 7, 15 and 16 all stand rejected as allegedly being anticipated by Prokupets. Claims 2, 7, 15 and 16 all depend from and incorporate all of the limitations of claim 1. Accordingly, for at least the same reasons as those set forth above in connection with claim 1, it is respectfully submitted that the anticipation rejections of claims 2, 7, 15 and 16 are in error and should be withdrawn.

V. Claims 3-6 and 18-20

Claims 3-6 and 18-20 stand rejected as allegedly being obvious over Prokupets in view of Miyamoto. Claims 3-6 and 18-20 depend from and incorporate all of the limitations of

claim 1. Accordingly, claims 3-6 and 18-20 all incorporate a limitation directed to “an isolating router coupling said first network to said second network and operable to isolate said first network from data transmission traffic in said second network”. As discussed above in connection with claim 1, Prokupets fails to teach or suggest such a router. None of the modifications of Prokupets proposed by the Examiner in connection with the rejection of claims 3-6 and 18-20 cure the deficiency of Prokupets with respect to claim 1. Accordingly, for at least the same reasons as those set forth above in connection with claim 1, it is respectfully submitted that the obviousness rejections of claim 3-6 and 18-20 are in error and should be withdrawn.

#### VI The Rejection of Claim 8 is in Error

Claim 8 also stands rejected as allegedly being obvious over Prokupets and Miyamoto.

Claim 8 is directed to a data transmission system that includes:

an isolating router connecting said first sub-network to said second sub-network and operable to isolate said first network from data transmission traffic in said second network

As discussed above, Prokupets does not teach a “router” that “is operable to isolate said first network from data transmission traffic in said second network.” Indeed, Prokupets does not disclose any routers at all. Moreover, the modification of Prokupets proposed by the Examiner in connection with the rejection of claim 8 does not cure the deficiency of Prokupets with respect to the claimed router.

As a result, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claim 10 over Prokupets is in error and should be withdrawn.

VII. Claims 9-13

Claims 9-13 all stand rejected as allegedly being obvious over Prokupets and Miyamoto (and Koenig?). Claims 9-13 all depend from and incorporate all of the limitations of claim 8. None of the modifications of Prokupets proposed by the Examiner in connection with the rejection of claims 9-13 cure the deficiency of Prokupets with respect to the claimed router. Accordingly, for at least the same reasons as those set forth above in connection with claim 8, it is respectfully submitted that the obviousness rejections of claims 9-13 are in error and should be withdrawn.

VIII. Claim 14

Claim 14 stands rejected as allegedly being anticipated by Prokupets. Claim 14 also recites a router. In claim 14, the router is operable to disable communication between certain workstations. As discussed above, Prokupets does not disclose *any* routers, much less routers configured as claimed.

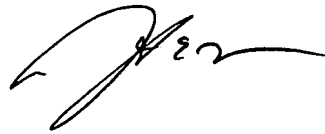
Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the anticipation rejection of claim 14 is in error and should be withdrawn.

IX. Conclusion

For all of the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted the applicant has made a patentable contribution to the art. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of this application is therefore respectfully requested.

In the event applicant has inadvertently overlooked the need for an extension of time or payment of an additional fee, the applicant conditionally petitions therefore, and authorizes any fee deficiency to be charged to deposit account 13-0014.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'H. C. Moore', with a stylized flourish at the end.

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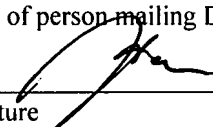
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
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Re:	Application of:	Rhodes et al.
	Serial No.:	10/671,234
	Filed:	September 25, 2003
	For:	Ethernet-Based Fire System Network
	Group Art Unit:	2155
	Confirmation No.:	8197
	Examiner:	Benjamin R. Bruckart
	Our Docket No.:	2003P14811US (1867-0039)

**TRANSMITTAL OF RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

Please find for filing in connection with the above patent application the  
following:

1. Response to Office Action; and
2. One (1) return post card.

\* The fee has been calculated as shown below.

CLAIMS AS AMENDED				
	Claims Remaining After Amendment	Highest No. Paid For	Fee Calculation	Addit Fee
Total Claims	20	20	0 X 50	\$ 0.00
Independent Claims	3	3	0 X 200	\$ 0.00
Total Additional Fee Required				\$ 0.00

Please charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 13-0014; but not to include any payment of issue fees.

Respectfully Submitted,

MAGINOT, MOORE & BECK



November 6, 2007

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Enclosures